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EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

OCI #0703/68
12 April 1968

Czechoslovak Party Congress Set For Next Spring

The 14th Congress of the party will be held "in the first half of next year," according to Slovak party first secretary Bilak. [REDACTED]

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COMMENT: Czechoslovak party boss Dubcek has been hinting that he wanted a congress in 1969, rather than waiting until 1970. The reason, of course, is that the party central committee's membership was chosen by Novotny and his crew, and includes many conservatives, which the reformers would like to oust. Their restraining influence on the recently promulgated action program is clear. Dubcek has given the conservatives a chance however, saying that he wanted no witchhunt at this time, but rather, at the next congress everyone would be evaluated in the context of his activities and support of the new party program.

Czechoslovaks Hint At Warsaw Pact Nuclear Planning Group

US Ambassador to NATO Cleveland has drawn attention to a recent Prague Radio broadcast in which its Moscow correspondent, Bobroyskiy, hinted that Moscow's Warsaw Pact allies--particularly Rumania--may be pressing for the formation of a nuclear planning group similar to that already existing in NATO.

Bobroyskiy's comments were made in a 6 March broadcast concerning the Warsaw Pact summit meeting in Sofia, in which he reported the divergent Rumanian attitude. He went on to speak about "speculation arising from certain changes which Soviet military doctrine has undergone," and stated that "if the creators of Soviet strategic concepts no longer consider it necessary to reply to an attack on one of the socialist countries with a nuclear strike..., the Pact member countries might ask some questions similar to those which... caused De Gaulle to quit NATO."

Bobroyskiy explicitly mentioned that there were "differences of opinion between socialists countries," and hinted that Rumania was in the lead in raising the issue of nuclear planning. He then made a rather hollow rejoinder that "differences can be successfully bridged." [REDACTED]

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Rumania And Its Unrenewed Friendship Treaties With the USSR,
Bulgaria, And Hungary

The Rumanian regime hopes that during 1968 it may be possible to renew the treaties with revised language "corresponding to current realities." Meanwhile, according to Rumanian Deputy Foreign Minister Malita, the old treaties remain in force, even though their original 20-year terms elapsed last January and February.

In discussing the treaties with US Ambassador Davis, Malita said that he could not confirm whether or not negotiations were currently taking place. However, he expressed his personal confidence that agreement would be reached on revised treaties, including one with Prague which formally expires this July. [REDACTED]

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COMMENT: The relatively low level of recent discussions on the treaties between the Russians and the Rumanians and Bucharest's defiance of Moscow at Budapest and Sofia suggest that basic bilateral problems are not likely to be resolved in the near future. Moreover, it seems quite unlikely that Rumania will renew its treaties with any of its allies until the pattern for such revised treaties is established in a new Rumanian-Soviet friendship treaty.

Yugoslavia Abstains at Mediterranean Conference

Yugoslavia refused to sign the final communique of the Rome conference of Mediterranean Communist and left-wing parties, according to a Reuters report. The Yugoslavs were chagrined because the communique condemned the American military presence in the Mediterranean without mentioning the presence of the Soviet fleet. Belgrade proposed that the area be freed of all military presence and nuclear weapons, but the final resolution called only for the closure of all American and British bases, withdrawal of the Sixth Fleet, non-renewal of the defense pact between the US and Spain, and the breakup of NATO. [REDACTED]

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COMMENT: Yugoslavia was a primary advocate for the convening of a conference designed to censure imperialism in the Mediterranean, but differed sharply with other delegations when they restricted attendance to controllable Communist and left-wing parties. The Jugs have been more concerned in recent weeks about the Soviet buildup in the area than they have about the normal presence there of US forces.

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Albania Criticizes Soviet Warships in the Mediterranean

The presence of a Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean was bitterly attacked over Radio Tirana on 10 April. According to the Albanians, the Soviets are there to collaborate with the US Sixth Fleet in a "gunboat" type policy, and to expand Russian hegemony over the area. Moreover, Tirana takes great care to point out that the Soviet fleet--obstensibly there to protect Moscow's Arab allies--has not prevented Israeli "aggression".

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COMMENT: While the Hoxha regime delights in exposing the shortcomings of Russian policies, Tirana is also reflecting its very real sensitivity to Soviet military presence in the Mediterranean, which is undoubtedly responsible for the high number of recent Albanian naval exercises

Poland's Cardinal Wyszynski Holds Out Carrot To Regime

[redacted] told the US Embassy in Warsaw on 11 April that Wyszynski may step down as Polish Primate and accept a post in Rome if the present political crisis in Poland results in liberalization.

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COMMENT: Since none of the party factions now struggling for power probably could get along with the conservative Wyszynski in the long run, a promise from the cardinal to leave the scene if liberalization comes about could be a major incentive for such a step. Nevertheless, since liberalization in Poland hardly seems around the corner, it appears that the cardinals position is safe for a long time to come.

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Information on the 24 April Budapest Preparatory Commission Meeting

The Budapest meeting of the commission preparing for the Moscow international communist conference, will be attended by central committee level experts in international relations, [redacted] The meeting will last ten days and will be followed by another planning session in mid-summer. The April session will be held at the Gellert Hotel, site of the March Consultative Meeting, and has been reserved through 6 May.

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COMMENT:

[redacted] the Hungarian invitation to the Belgian CP was for a "first meeting" which would synthesize positions and draw up documents for the Moscow meeting. The lengthy preparations suggest that some real substantive issues may be examined at the Moscow conference in late 1968.

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NOTE: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE REPRESENT
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INTELLIGENCER ANNEX

Initial Reaction to the Attack on Rudi Dutschke

An estimated 3,000 to 5,000 students attacked the Springer publishing plant in West Berlin a few hours after the shooting of firebrand leftist leader Rudi Dutschke yesterday. Molotov cocktails were thrown into the plant's garage and twelve trucks were destroyed. Acting Governing Mayor and Interior Minister Kurt Neubauer personally directed the 1,700 police required to quell the disturbance.

Some 350 dissident students in Frankfurt demonstrated in support of the Berlin youths. Student organizations in at least twenty major West German cities issued protests against the shooting of Dutschke. Publisher Axel Springer is the main target of the protests, because of his campaign against Dutschke and student leaders of his ilk. Chancellor Kiesinger sent a message to Mrs. Dutschke, an American citizen, expressing hope for her husband's recovery. Kiesinger deplored the shooting, condemned violence and described Dutschke as a "gifted German whom the Federal Republic did not consider its enemy." A subsequent government statement blamed the Socialist German Students league (SDS) for trying to make political capital of the incident and called for restraint on the part of "all political elements in Germany." The three major parties in West Germany all issued statements condemning the shooting.

In Berlin, Neubauer issued a statement saying Dutschke was "not a friend of this Senat," but added that the attack on him was deplored by the city government. He further stated that "this deed requires sharp and clear atonement."

Dutschke's assailant has been identified through his fingerprints as Josef Erwin Bachmann, 24, of Reichenback. Bachmann was arrested for robbery in 1961. Both Bachmann and Dutschke are reported to be in critical condition in a Spandau hospital.

COMMENT: Governing Mayor Schuetz returned from vacation this morning and met with the Senat to discuss measures to be taken with respect to demonstrations which are anticipated over the weekend. Some demonstrations had already been scheduled for the perennially turbulent Easter week-end, and the situation could become ugly. A demonstration, ostensibly to commemorate the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King,

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was to begin today at 3 pm at Lehniner Platz on the Kurfuerstendamm and end up in the American housing section. Sponsored by the "Berlin Committee: Black Power" the demonstration may now become more forceful with a local martyr to enhance the cause.

The overwhelming majority of West Berliners, however, reject Dutschke and what he stands for and will not join any protest aimed at building up his image. Furthermore, the Berlin police handled last night's violence quite well and probably will be encouraged by their initial success if the weekend demonstrations are not peaceful.

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